MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, and also that they be given some remuneration for this work.

Opening of new schools in rural areas.

96. MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is any uniform principle or policy followed by the Education Department in the matter of granting permission to open new schools of the same type in rural areas, and, if so, what it is ; and

(*b*) what according to the *Education Code* should be the distance between one school and another of the same type ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The member is referred to parts (*a*) and (*b*) of Rule 134 of the *Education Code*.

(*b*) There is no rule restricting the opening of new schools within specified distances. Each case is decided on its merits, with particular reference to the requirements of the locality.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : With reference to the answer to part (*b*) of the question, may I know what may be the considerations that may weigh with the authorities concerned for granting permission to open a new school in a particular locality where there is already a school.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The permission is granted, where there is necessity for two schools to take in the whole student population.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Even in rural areas ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, everywhere.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : My question is confined to the policy of the Government in giving permission to rural areas. I have excluded towns.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There may not be scope for two schools in a particular place. In that case, permission will be granted to only one school. If there is scope for two schools, permission will be granted for two schools.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that there is unhealthy competition at the expense of the student population, between private individuals, for opening more schools for their own selfish ends ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government are not aware.

List of irrigation works pending execution.

97. MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*) : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of irrigation works for which estimates are ready, but for which the funds have not been allotted till now (14-11-1104) with the dates on which such estimates were finally approved ?

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